



ABERDEEN COLLEGE

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

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ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

1.0 Introduction

The College is committed to environmental sustainability, where the needs of the present do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs and is committed to the dual ethos of sustainability and responsible global citizenship.

The College recognises that its activities may have effects on sustainability and will ensure legislative compliance, and where practicable, exceed this minimum requirement by incorporating sound sustainability management practices into all aspects of College operations.

2.0 Key Principles

The College is aware of its educational, organisational and social responsibilities. Therefore in promoting and developing environmental sustainability, the College will:

- (i) use both the curriculum and CPD to promote knowledge, attitudes, behaviours and skills that enable individuals to make informed decisions relating to the impact of their actions on the environment
- (ii) act in ways that promote a sustainable world environment through reducing, reusing and recycling wherever possible, and implementing safe and ethical disposal procedures
- (iii) develop and share good practice in order to influence society in a positive way, seek to engage creatively and diversely, and promote opportunity for all
- (iv) recognise that the minimum acceptable level of environmental performance is that stipulated in environmental legislation
- (v) set clear environmental aims, actions and targets and monitor progress.

3.0 Strategy Aims

The following broad aims are essential to the strategy:

- 3.1 Reduce the use of fossil fuels, water and hazardous substances through improved efficiency of resource utilisation and recycling.
- 3.2 Encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling, video and audio conferencing to reduce harmful emissions and from car usage.
- 3.3 Reduce the pollution of air, water and land arising from the activities of the College.
- 3.4 Adopt a purchasing policy that will give preference, where practicable, to those products and services that cause least harm to the environment and takes account of the environmental performance of suppliers and contractors.
- 3.5 Ensure the College's estate is managed to protect biodiversity.
- 3.6 Ensure new and refurbished buildings are sensitive to visual amenity and impact on the local community.
- 3.7 Collaborate with appropriate external organisations and communities to improve the mutual understanding of environmental problems and their solutions.
- 3.8 Integrate, where feasible, appropriate environmental sustainability knowledge and training into academic and vocational courses to ensure learners are able to make informed judgements and decisions.

- 3.9 Provide environmental sustainability training and development opportunities for appropriate staff and promote general environmental awareness of all staff.
- 3.10 Communicate the College's environmental performance to appropriate stakeholders.

4.0 Responsibilities for Implementation and Management

- 4.1 Overall responsibility for the implementation of the College's Environmental Sustainability Strategy will rest with the Vice Principal and Director of Human Resource Management and Development.
- 4.2 Named managers will have specific responsibility for various aspects of the strategy and for ensuring compatibility with other College activities.
- 4.3 The Climate Change Action Plan Group will monitor the progress of the strategy and associated action plans and report to the Principal and senior management.
- 4.4 The College will maintain the ISO 14001 Standard for its Environmental Management System.